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**Project Subject: Capabilities and Vulnerabilities of the USSR
Rail Transport System**

Sub-Project Identification: NA

Amendment No: NA

Originating Division: Foreign Documents Division, 00

a. Division Chief: Mr. John J. Bagnall, Ext. 591

b. Branch Chief : [REDACTED] Ext. 2150

c. Case Officer : [REDACTED] Ext. 2150

25X1A

Target Area: USSR

**Type of Project : Survey of Russian-language material for data
on the capabilities and vulnerabilities of
the USSR rail transport system**

Financial Mechanism: Direct Purchase of Services

Funds Requested : Remainder FY 1956 (April-June 1956) and FY 1957

Current Status : New

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1. **OBJECTIVE:** The objective is extensive exploitation of Soviet serial and monographic literature for information of intelligence value pertaining to the USSR rail transport system.
2. **ORIGIN and POLICY GUIDANCE:**
 - a. Origin. Implementation of National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 16 which charges CIA (Foreign Documents Division) with primary responsibility for centrally exploiting foreign language publications.
 - b. Whence proposed: Headquarters
3. **SITUATION:** There are significant gaps in intelligence on the rail transport system of the USSR. These gaps must be bridged if reliable estimates are to be made of the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the system. It has been determined by current intelligence projects in OPR/CIA that an extensive exploitation of available unclassified Soviet published material (both serial and monographic literature) is a prerequisite to the abridgment of these gaps, and to the formulation of an intelligence base on which current Soviet plans and operations may be evaluated. FDD currently provides support to OPR by processing Soviet publications for data of intelligence value on the USSR rail transport system; however, personnel limitations prohibit thorough coverage of all available material. Work performed under the terms of the contract here proposed would supplement the FDD effort and bring coverage to the level required.
4. **PROPOSAL:** Recommend that contracts be drawn with an appropriately qualified individual for the last two months of FY 1956 and the full FY 1957 for extensive exploitation of Russian-language publications for data on the USSR rail transport system.
5. **OPERATIONAL OUTLINE:**
 - a. Sub-proposal or tasks. The exploitation of unclassified Soviet serial and monographic literature will consist basically of:

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- (1) A directed search for specific information on the USSR rail transport system needed to fill intelligence gaps, and;
- (2) Translation of pertinent items of intelligence value.

The contractee will turn in rough copy which will be reviewed by FDD intelligence officers prior to transmittal to OMA and other consumer offices. Administrative and operational control will be provided by the FDD Case Officer.

b. Key personnel.

- (1) Chief, Foreign Documents Division, OO. Has responsibility for over-all coordination of external research contracts involving the processing of foreign language material.
- (2) Deputy Chief, USSR Branch/FDD. Will act as Case Officer, providing administrative and operational control over contractee.
- (3) Contractee. Must be a qualified Russian linguist able to screen and sift a large volume of material rapidly. Familiarity with subject field is desirable but not essential. Must have experience necessary to do medium level research, and know how to use reference materials.

c. Indigenous groups and/or leaders. NA

d. Target groups. NA

e. Duration. Remainder FY 1956 and all of FY 1957.

f. Graphic illustrations. NA

6. SECURITY:

- a. Cover. No cover will be required. A name check clearance with the Security Office will be made before a contract is drawn with an individual.

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- b. Knowledgeability. The briefing given the contractee will not involve classified information or materials. The contractee will know that he is working for CIA, but will have knowledge of the project sufficient only for his purposes, and will not know CIA's objectives or the use or the results of his work.
- c. Operational security. The contractee will not have access to CIA premises or CIA classified material.
- d. Risks. NA
- e. Personnel disposal. NA
- f. Disaster plan. NA

7. COORDINATION:

- a. Relation to other projects. Project will be conducted as a separate and unrelated research effort. However, intelligence information developed from the results will provide additional support for other current projects in related fields.
- b. Significance within over-all program in area. Contribution will be invaluable in providing additional support for current studies of the capabilities and vulnerabilities of a key sector (rail transport system) in the economy of the key target area (USSR). (See 3 above)
- c. Extent of coordination. No coordination with other field or departmental components of CIA, with other government agencies, with extra-government organizations, or with foreign governments is involved. Coordination at headquarters will be effected by FDD.

8. CONTROL:

- a. Nature of. FDD will assume responsibility for direct administrative and operational control of the contractee and his work. No other control necessary.
- b. Administrative plan. NA
- c. Reports. No unusual report procedures required.

9. BUDGET DATA:

- a. Total over-all CIA funds required for FY 1956: [REDACTED] all to be expended as pay for research. 25X1A
- b. Availability of CIA funds required. Certification to be obtained.
- c. Non-CIA funds. NA
- d. Foreign currency. NA
- e. Funding. Unvouchered funds available in ORR; to be transferred to OO/FDP
- f. Financial history. None
- g. Future requirements. Approximately [REDACTED] will be required for FY 1957. 25X1A

10. SUPPORT DATA:

- a. Total CIA personnel. Sufficient headquarters personnel are available to handle the project.
- b. Material. NA
- c. Communications. NA
- d. Other CIA support. NA
- e. Support required from other United States agencies. NA

11. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- a. Current status. New project
- b. Commitments. None at present
- c. Effectiveness. NA
- d. Anticipated results. Soviet published material, openly procured, is a prime source for information of intelligence value on the subject field. Work performed under

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the terms of this contract will consist of a systematic and thorough processing of this material. The results, when added to the comparable FDD effort, will substantially increase the raw intelligence data available to CIA offices charged with the production of finished intelligence estimates concerning the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the USSR rail transport system.

- e. Evaluation. By FDD
- f. Policy questions. NA
- g. Congress. No involvement
- h. Extra-Agency action. The present FDD program covering the provision of intelligence information on the USSR rail transport system includes the assignment of sufficient personnel to process current issues of Soviet serial publications for this data. FDD cannot undertake the comprehensive exploitation of back issues of Soviet serial publications or Soviet monographic literature for such data in addition to the work currently being performed with the personnel available at the present time.
- i. Proprietary companies. NA
- j. Special considerations. NA
- k. Liquidation. NA

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